

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DOE-15 ACDA-12 PM-05 CIAE-00
INR-10 IO-14 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-07
SOE-02 DODE-00 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 /121 R

DRAFTED BY OES/NET/EIC: D H COOPER:SMJ
APPROVED BY OES/NET: D B HOYLE
DOE/IA: J GARRETT
EUR/WE: E BEIGEL
ACDA: F BUCHHOLZ

-----108390 121535Z /46

P 121502Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 175479

USEEC, ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: TECH, ENRG, USEEC, PARM, FR, BE

SUBJECT:FRENCH CONTRACT WITH DOE FOR SUPPLY OF HIGHLY
ENRICHED URANIUM (HEU)

REF: PARIS 32123

1. AS EMBASSY MAY RECALL DEPARTMENT HAS FOR SEVERAL MONTHS
BEEN ATTEMPTING TO WORK OUT DETAILS WITH DOE WHICH WOULD
1) ENABLE CEA TO ACCEPT DELIVERY OF HIGHLY ENRICHED URANIUM
UNDER EXISTING DOE/CEA CONTRACT (EU-7) AFTER END OF 1978
AND 2) EXCUSE CEA FROM THE PENALTY REQUIREMENT FOR LATE
DELIVERY OF ASSOCIATED FEED MATERIAL TO DOE. THE DEPART-
MENT'S EFFORTS IN THIS REGARD STEM FROM RECOGNITION AND
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APPRECIATION OF THE HELPFUL AND COOPERATIVE ROLE WHICH THE
GOF HAS PLAYED IN FURTHERING OUR MUTUAL NON-PROLIFERATION
GOALS DURING THE PAST YEAR, AND PARTICULARLY ITS WILLINGNESS
TO REDUCE, AT OUR REQUEST, THE QUANTITIES OF HEU IN A NUMBER
OF FRENCH EXPORT LICENSE APPLICATIONS.

2. THE DOE HAS RECENTLY DECIDED THAT, IN VIEW OF THE

CONSIDERATIONS REFERRED TO IN PARA 1 ABOVE, IT WOULD BE WILLING TO GRANT THE GOF CONTRACT RELIEF ON A NON-PRECEDENTIAL BASIS. TO THAT END, DOE PLANS TO SUGGEST TO THE FRENCH (CEA) THAT CONTRACT EU-7 BE ALLOWED TO EXPIRE ON

DECEMBER 31, 1978, WITHOUT ASSESSMENT OF TERMINATION CHARGES FOR THE ENRICHING SERVICES NOT TAKEN AS OF THAT DATE. THE DOE IS WILLING TO SUPPLY THIS REMAINING AMOUNT OF ENRICHING SERVICES UNDER A SHORT-TERM, FIXED COMMITMENT CONTRACT WHICH WOULD PICK UP ANY FEED MATERIAL BALANCE REMAINING UNDER CONTRACT EU-7. HOWEVER, DOE WILL NOT ASSESS THE CEA FOR ANY POSSIBLE LATE FEED DELIVERY CHARGES UNDER THE CONTRACT EU-7.

3. EMBASSY REQUESTED PASS GIST OF FOREGOING TO APPROPRIATE GOF AND CEA OFFICIALS, WITH EMPHASIS ON FACT THAT THESE NON-PRECEDENTIAL ARRANGEMENTS WERE ONLY POSSIBLE IN LIGHT OF THE CLOSE COOPERATION WHICH EXISTS BETWEEN OUR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS IN PURSUIT OF OUR MUTUAL NON-PROLIFERATION OBJECTIVES. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SALES, URANIUM, CONTRACTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE175479
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: D H COOPER:SMJ
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780285-0837
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780768/aaaacfja.tel
Line Count: 82
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 97da7e76-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN OES
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 PARIS 32123
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2032846
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRENCH CONTRACT WITH DOE FOR SUPPLY OF HIGHLY ENRICHED URANIUM (HEU)
TAGS: TECH, ENRG, PARM, FR, BE, EEC
To: PARIS USEEC
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/97da7e76-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014